



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE  
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 85612A  
12 June 2019

MICHAEL BEST  
MUCKROCK  
DEPT MR 28548  
411A HIGHLAND AVE  
SOMERVILLE MA 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Best:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 3 October 2016, which was received by this office on 3 October 2016, for "Copy of notes and briefings prepared for Representative Jim Leach, as well as any notes, letters or memoranda prepared or exchanged in response to his request for a briefing." As previously stated, your request has been assigned Case Number 85612. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. Since processing fees were minimal, no fees were assessed.

Your request has been processed under the FOIA and the documents you requested are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosure.

Information which would reveal names of NSA/CSS employees have been deleted from the enclosure. These deletions are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605).

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be sent via U.S. postal mail, fax or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA/CSS FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)  
National Security Agency  
9800 Savage Road STE 6932  
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932  
The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.

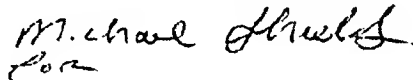
- The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is [FOIARSC@nsa.gov](mailto:FOIARSC@nsa.gov)
- The request must be postmarked no later than 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.

- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe this partial denial was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

You may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison at [foialo@nsa.gov](mailto:foialo@nsa.gov) for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Rd- OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740  
[ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
(877) 684-6448  
(202) 741-5770  
Fax (202) 741-5769

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Shuck" with a stylized flourish below it.

JOHN R. CHAPMAN  
Chief, FOIA/PA Office  
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encls:  
a/s

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CC: DDP  
 IG  
 EXREG

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(202) 225-7502

July 14, 1995

Vice Admiral John McConnell  
 Director  
 National Security Agency  
 Ft. George Meade, MD 20755

Dear Admiral McConnell:

I am writing to accept your agency's request for a postponement of a scheduled July 14 briefing from the NSA's Inspector General regarding various allegations of money laundering in Arkansas in the late 1980s. I propose that the briefing be rescheduled for 10:00 a.m. in my office on July 21.

Based on representations from your agency, it is my understanding that today's briefing was postponed because the intelligence community needed additional time to research back files. It is also my understanding that NSA requested a rescheduling because the Central Intelligence Agency strongly preferred a joint briefing on the issues at hand. In that context, it is my expectation that NSA will have reviewed all relevant agency documents by next Friday and be prepared to fully respond to my letter of July 11. I appreciate your attention to this request.

Sincerely

*[Signature]*  
 James A. Leach  
 Chairman

*Dir has  
 seen & been  
 briefed on 7/14/95  
 per [redacted]*

(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

Approved for Release by NSA on 06-12-2019, FOIA Case # 85612

\* 54375 \*



CP

## NSA STAFF PROCESSING FORM

TO DIRECTOR <i>SL</i> <i>M</i>		EXREG CONTROL NUMBER	KCC CONTROL NUMBER
THRU		ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	EXREG SUSPENSE
SUBJECT Congressman Leach Request			KCC SUSPENSE
			ELEMENT SUSPENSE
DISTRIBUTION GC, LAO, N5P4			
SUMMARY			

- It truly is a full moon!

**PURPOSE:** Provide status on Congressman Leach's request for information regarding allegations of money laundering in Arkansas in the late 1980s (reference Congressman Leach's letter of July 11, 1995).

**STATUS:**

- I have touched base with the proper people (See Tab A).

- I can find no substance, even by liberal stretch, to suggest any NSA connection.

- This is a rehash of the FORBES editor inquiry of May 1995 (See Tab B) which itself is a rehash of some of the same and related allegations previously put to rest in a Special Counsel investigation concluded in March 1993, e.g., PROMIS, NSA/CIA/Justice, Hayes, et al (See excerpts, Tab C) and NSA GC memo (See Tab D).

- I told LAO I will be available to meet with the Congressman tomorrow, or any other time, if required.

Very respectfully,

*F E N*  
FRANCIS E. NEWTON

Inspector General

COORDINATION/APPROVAL					
OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE	OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE
ORIGINATOR FRANCIS E. NEWTON			ORG. IG	PHONE (Secure) 963-3544s	DATE PREPARED 13 July 1995

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July 11, 1995

CC: DDP  
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(202) 225 7502

Vice Admiral John McConnell, USN  
 Director  
 National Security Agency  
 Ft. George Meade, MD 20755

Dear Admiral McConnell:

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

I am writing to seek your agency's help in verifying or laying to rest various allegations of money laundering in Arkansas in the late 1980s. For that purpose, I would request a briefing from NSA's Inspector General on Friday, July 14 before 1:00 p.m.; if that is not possible, sometime on Monday, July 17, would also be convenient. *(Briefing scheduled for 21 July at 10:00.)*

The reports I have in mind have appeared in the general press and, sometimes in sensational form, in more narrow-gauged outlets, including the Internet. They speak of secret foreign bank accounts held by prominent people in Arkansas, special software to monitor bank transfers, an Arkansas-centered network of banks formed to launder money, and similar tales. I would like to determine whether there is any substance at all to these stories.

Specifically, I would like your Inspector General to tell me whether the Agency:

- (1) knows of any secret bank accounts held by U.S. citizens domiciled in Arkansas at any time between 1988 and now;
- (2) is aware, directly or indirectly, of any efforts by computer hackers, U.S.-government related or otherwise, to penetrate banks for the purpose of monitoring accounts and transactions;
- (3) knows of or has participated, directly or indirectly, in efforts to sell software--notably versions of a program in use at the Justice Department called PROMIS--or clandestinely produced devices to foreign banks for the purpose of collecting economic intelligence and information about illicit money transfers;

\* 54322 \*

page two

(4) is cognizant of any attempts by Systematics Inc, an Arkansas-based electronic data processor that is now a division of All-tell, to monitor or engage in the laundering of drug money or proceeds of other illegal activities, notably those conducted through Mena, Arkansas;

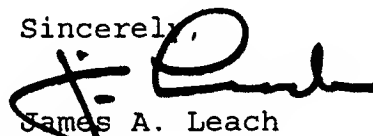
(5) can provide information about Charles Hayes, a businessman in Nancy, Kentucky, who claims to have been a CIA operative in Latin and Central America, among other places;

(6) knew of or was involved in, directly or indirectly, any covert activities by the U.S. government or any private parties (the so-called "private benefactors") in or around Mena in the late 1980s;

(7) had any contractual or other relationship with the late Adler Barriman "Barry" Seal in the 1980s or knew about his activities in connection with Mena.

I would appreciate your help in shedding light on these matters.

Sincerely,



James A. Leach  
Chairman